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IN THE CLAIMS:**1. - 9. *cancelled***

10. *(currently amended)* A method for providing access to multiple online accounts via a common password, the method comprising:

receiving a common password associated with an online account; and

determining if the ~~universal~~ common password is valid for the associated online account based upon a designated password which was previously generated for the associated online account, wherein the designated password was previously generated using based upon a password transform calculation, ~~the password calculation~~ based upon a user ID for the associated online account, the ~~universal~~ common password, a server name associated with the online account and a random number stored at the server.

11. *cancelled*

12. *(previously presented)* The method of claim 10, wherein the password transform is represented by a text conversion of the following hash function:

$$\text{Hash}(U_i + P_c + S_i + N_r)$$

where U_i stands for a user ID, P_c for a common password, S_i for a server name and N_r for a random number.

13. *(previously presented)* The method of claim 10, further comprising:
generating a designated password for each of the multiple online accounts which is accessible via the common password.

14. *(currently amended)* A method for providing access to multiple Web accounts via a universal password which is valid for the multiple Web accounts, the method comprising:

providing a designated password for each of the multiple Web accounts, the designated password being calculated for each of the multiple Web accounts based on a

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hash function which incorporates the universal password, a user ID, an account server name and a random number stored at the server as an inputs to the hash function;

receiving the universal password for access to at least one of the multiple Web accounts;

determining if the universal password is valid based on the associated designated password for the at least one of the multiple Web accounts; and

providing access to the at least one of the multiple Web accounts provided the universal password is valid.

15. - 17. *cancelled*

18. *(original)* The method of claim 14, wherein determining if the universal password is valid based on the associated designated password for the at least one of the multiple Web accounts includes:

receiving a user ID;

retrieving an encrypted random number based on the user ID;

receiving the associated designated password; and

comparing the received associated designated password with a corresponding saved designated password for the at least one of the multiple Web accounts.

19. *(original)* The method of claim 14, further comprising:

providing a new designated password for the at least one of the multiple Web accounts if requested.

20. *(original)* The method of claim 14, wherein providing a new designated password for the at least one of the multiple Web accounts if requested includes:

generating a random number; and

calculating the new designated password based on at least the universal password and the random number.